MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

4/20/64

Dear Eric:

Here's another one that just varies in so many small points that I can't be sure. Somehow, the texture and feel of it is just not right, and it looks doctored. A dealer in U.S. just sent it to me. He received it from an American army officer stationed in England, and he just mentioned that he purchased it from an individual. This also sounds suspicious. I called the dealer and asked him to write and ask for some time in order to have it authenticated, and, at the same time to try to trace it to the original source. Please make this on a quickie. I promised that I'd try to have it back on it's way to him in a week. I now have a file set up for you, so that when you call, I just pull it, and any questions or info for you will be readily available. Some time ago you asked if I'd heard of a collection having been stolen from the Philadelphia area. At the time I didn't recall, but, at the last convention there, I met the former owner of that collection, a Mr. J.E. Davis, and he sent me the police report of it, as well as some other lists. It was stolen 3/2/63. If you'd like to see it, I can send it on. Do you know where all of the known specimens of the original Confederate half dollar are?? I know of yours, ANS, and JJF (?). I thought there was another known.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 4/20/64 № 5334

Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Wash. Ave
St. Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1773 Va 1d. ?	CSOF	?			

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

4/26/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the prompt action on the 'penny'. Liked the fancy letter, but, can't tell from that whether or not you think it good or bad. You sure have an attorney's mind in writing a long letter and still not hitting the nail on the head. I can buy this. Not on the basis of price, but, on genuineness, should I? Would you? Don't have any real line on the original confederate half, just an inquiry as to where the known originals are. Here's the Davis list. Please excuse the haste, must go out of town again tonight. What do you think of the Stack piece? Have you finished copying my Morris Catalogue? Did you ever hear of a Virginia halfpenny ($118\frac{1}{2}$ grains), in silver, or silver looking metal? I have what appears to be a 27-J in Silver. Ted Craige is picking it up tonight, and will see what he comes up with in a few days. Do you believe the Franklin-Ford confederate $\frac{1}{2}$ dol and story that went with it?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

May 6, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick,

I am returning the Davis theft details, for which I am grateful.

I have studied the Virginia halfpence 1-A in my collection and find that it was struck in a smooth collar, that it also has a slight wire edge, that it is upright on both sides when turned on a vertical axis, and it contains die defects below the E in GEORGIVS.

Accordingly, I am confinced that the specimen which you sent me is genuine.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

5/8/64

Dear Eric:

Just reached the party, and it's OK to send, so, here it is. Also, here are a few shillings just in case you don't have any. Dave Bowers told me that he could lend as many more as we need, as there are many varieties (these are from Coin Galleries), so, if you feel that you want to, give Dave a call, and ask him to send what you want. If I've neglected to ask you, I need a few prints of that Washington, Roman Head trial strike. Taxay wants one, as well as a few other people, so, please send about a half dozen. I'd like one for myself too. Try not to be too long with this Immune. I'll return your files on the Immunes as soon as I take some notes from it.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Rich

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 5/8/64 № 5370

Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 West Ave
St Louis 2, Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1785 Immune Col. Silver					
5	British Shillings					

May 20, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island
New York

Dear Dick:

I am wverwhelmed with work and that is why you are neglected.

I am returning the little Continental Dollar belonging to Stack's, along with a duplicate report with respect to it. A photograph of the Continental Dollar is enclosed for you.

I am also enclosing an Oak Tree shilling sent to me by Bob Vlack as I have obtained permission from him to send it to you.

I am also sending you some of my comments with respect to it. I would like very much for you to look it over and study it and see if you think it is a forgery or a genuine piece.

I will have to have some additional pictures made of the Hancock trial but enclosed is one to hold you for the moment. All other open matters are completely under control.

I am most interested in hearing the garbage on the New Confederate half dollar. I have pictures of Ford's piece.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CERTIFIED MAIL

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

6/2/64

Dear Eric:

This, I bought a while back, and, upon 2nd look, it seems to have some suspicious qualities, though, most of them can be explained. The weight is about 42 grains, which is very slightly heavy, and, that can be understood. However, I'd appreciate it very much if you would give this a careful examination, and, perhaps a spG, and, let me know what you think. Meanwhile, I'm anxious to know what you've decided about the immune in silver, and, would appreciate seeing it in the mail real soon. That's one that's only borrowed, and if we keep things too long, it only makes it more difficult to borrow other items in the future. I thought you'd be very much interested in seeing another original confederate half dollar. How come the lack of enthusiasm?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Rich

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.

COINS

P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 6/2/64 № 5404

Erin Numismatics
Edwin Bros Stamp Co
400 North Broadway
St. Louis 2 MO

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1801 1 0¢	39180CX				

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

6/3/64

Dear Eric:

Nice talking with you a little earlier. I'm going to give you time to get home (and hope that you stay there), and direct dial you after 9 NY time, just to ask if you want to see the confederate half, since, it may not be available for your examination after the summer. I checked my records and find that I sold Anton an EF Immunis, N.J. for $1250. 1/4/62. I say EF because that's to the best of my recollection, since I do not grade coins or keep records of conditions. However, I do recall that it was a lovely piece, and I can either get a photo of it from Anton, or his description, after he returns from his ~~n~~ honneymoon. This info is only for your purposes in trying to arrive at a price for your piece, and shouldn't be published anyplace. I think that information of this sort should be confidential between buyer and seller, but, I also think that I know Billy well enough to know that he'd allow this info to go to you for this purpose, if it was kept confidential. Regarding your Silver Dollar, assuming that it didn't come out of a bag recently released by the treasury department, I'd like to give that some further thought, and write you a separate letter on my fancy stationery. Frankly, I feel that I'll estimate it in the neighborhood of $40,000. I'm toying in this area for a few reasons, but, would like to give it more thought.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

6/18/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the note, and copy of the letter to Ben. I just spoke with him, and, of course it was an error. July 15th is supposed to be his moving day, and that's on his mind. He's notifying his bank to clear it, so, it's OK to deposit. I gave him your number because he wanted to call, and explain, but, just in the event that he didn't get you, that's the story. Here's the appraisal. If there's anything else that you'd like to include, or, anything you'd like to add or delete, just make whatever changes you'd like, and return it, and I'll do it over for you. Billy Anton asked for your number last night, and was to call you. I asked him to ask you to call me this evening, and gave the same message to Ben. If neither reached you, or, if they both forgot, please call at the first opportunity. I want to discuss the London Token matter with you.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

June 26, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

The 1801 dime, in my opinion, is perfectly good, even though the reverse is rough and looks as if it had been pickled. Others are also frosty. It is returned herewith.

I am returning the five English shillings which you were nice enough to send me and the famous Immune Columbia with the indication of an undercoin. I call your attention, specifically, to the fact that the Immune Columbia definitely has an artificially applied edge which was not either done at the time of striking or done in a Castaign machine. It is the exact thickness of a U.S. 25¢ piece but I cannot prove anything. It is substantially larger than a shilling and therefore would not have been made from a shilling.

Bill Anton telephoned me and asked me to call him back, which I did, at 2 A.M., his time, since he was going to be up all night with the elephants.

He told me that his uncirculated London token came from the Peck collection, which I have since learned is not the case and he has been misinformed. He told me he had another elephant token which he had for a number of years which was the same die as the one he obtained recently. I, naturally, asked him to give me its picture and its source. He told me what he paid for these tokens and after I picked myself up off the floor I was surprised that he was unconcerned as to whether they were genuine or not. He promised he would send me pictures of all of his elephant pieces along with their weights and reverse juxtapositions and I have already sent him the pictures of your pieces along with the comments, a copy of which you have already received.

I know that you will have a wonderful trip to Europe and I know that I will not have your luck in finding rare coins in England.

June 26, 1964

I will probably be digging in the archives, in Birmingham, to see what can be learned about Obadiah Westwood and Boulton.

I am taking a group of Kennedy half dollars as an emolument for those who deserve it and suggest that you might do the same.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

6/26/64

Dear Eric:

Please excuse the haste. I believe I've discovered another new Fugio reverse die. From the photos it appears to be obverse 5, but not reverse F or any other known reverse. If you have one, I'd like to borrow your 5-F to confirm the obverse. If there will not be time to return it to you before you leave, I'll keep it in my bank vault, until you return. It is not like Ted's new piece.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

June 30, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366 Albertson
Long Island, New York

Dear Dick,

I am glad you found a new Fugio reverse and look forward to taking its picture. Send it to me just before you leave and I will photograph it so I can return it to you at the convention.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

E N/atb

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

9/5/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the note. I spoke to Anton early this week, and he promised that he'd be out here with his herd some time this week. So far, I haven't heard from him. Meanwhile, a few questions. How did you determine that they were made by pressure impact rather than spark erosion, electro-magnetic forming, etc? Also, how did you determine that it's electrolytic copper? Though I doubt that the new owner of the 1709s will swap even, I will speak to him, and see if he will consider some sort of swap. He knows that these are rarer than the 1st issue, and he paid a good deal more than Anton paid for the uncut pair from Douglas. Back to the elephants. Isn't it possible that the original dies were found, and, after all this time were rusted and possibly corroded, so, were polished down and recut?

Kindest Regards,

Sincerely,

Rick

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.

COINS

P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

MAYFAIR 1-0763

Consignation

~~APPROVAL~~

DATE 9/14/64

№ 5509

Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Washington
~~[illegible]~~ St Louis 2 Mo

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE	
	So Car 7/25/61			
	Va 5/24/60			
	Not for Sale			

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

9/24/64

Dear Eric:

Haven't heard anything from you. I hope you received the weights of the Londons that I sent. Have you come up with anything new on them? Also, what's the info on the Auctori Plebis? Did you receive the notes? I have a letter from the purchaser of the 2nd issue of the 1709s, and he isn't interested in trading them off at this time. Perhaps he'll reconsider some time in the ~~X~~ future. Lester Merkin mentioned that he would like to show you his confederate half, as well as his proof peace dollar, and suggested that he would like to stop to see you in St. Louis about October 20-21, on his way out to California. If this will be convenient for you, please let me know, and I'll have him call you when he returns from Europe in about 2-3 weeks. A letter to his office may go astra while he's away. ~~XXXXXX~~ ~~XX~~,

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

RICHARD PICKER, INC.

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATISTS GUILD - INC

DATE 10/3/63 № 5081

Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 North Ave
St Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE
1652 Oak Tree III Mac 27½?	JTB	
Please Certify when Returning		

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

10/8/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the quick note, and for the article on the Elephants. I went thru it real quickly, and plan to read it more thoroughly in a day or so, but, on the surface I can see no suggestions except that ~~pe~~ perhaps so much technical information may give the counterfeiters an opportunity to correct their mistakes, and make better, if not undetectable forgeries. That's one reason why I was glad to see that you crossed out the reference to old and new metals. It might be a good idea to keep some secrets as to how we're able to detect these forgeries, and let them keep making the same mistakes. More on this after I'm able to read it more carefully, and go over it with Ted. I gave him my two specimens, and told him it's OK to take some tests even if they damage the coin. We'll see what comes of that. Meanwhile, I'd like your expert opinion on these two pieces. I'm quite certain that the Florida is a cast, and that the dollar may be good, but, I do want an independent opinion. Please let me have your findings as soon as possible. Please excuse the haste.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Rich

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.

COINS

P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 10/8/64 Nº 5567

Eric P Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Wash Ave
St. Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE	
	1776 Cont Dollar Pewter			
	( ) Florida 1/24 Real			

October 12, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island
New York

Dear Dick:

I am very sorry that recent involvements have deferred my return of the two notes you were nice enough to send me. They are returned herewith. I really appreciate your cooperation in these matters.

Please forgive me.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

October 15, 1964

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

The Plantation Farthing submitted weighs 141 grains and has a specific gravity of 10.4. It is obviously a lead cast. It is generally weak and if one needs any more defects one can note that the dotted edge, which is properly found on these coins, is entirely missing on this particular coin as the edge is smooth.

I am returning it herewith.

EPN/atb

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

October 15, 1964

TO Mr.Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick,

The Continental Dollar, 1-C, is a common cast. As you noted, it has a plain edge and not the leaf edge. Its color is wrong. It is weak. It weighs 258 grains and has a specific gravity of 7.4. It is returned herewith.

It is always a pleasure to be of help.

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

10/19/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the letter. Hall's ad appeared in the Oct. Scrapbook, P. 2730, at the bottom of the page with a bunch of miscellaneous items. Now it appears that there's another coin, a Washington half dollar in copper with ornamental edge, that he has for sale. It seems that he thought that was the coin I wanted to see (though it wasn't advertised), for which he's asking $35,000. (not bad eh?), and perhaps he was referring to this piece as having been acquired from you. At any rate, both coins have been left here in N.Y., and I'll be getting to see them shortly. Perhaps your guess that the Elephant is actually Anton's is correct, because, as I recall, he had 2 of those Washington pieces, and it is not uncommon for him to ask prices of this nature. As soon as I learn anything further, I'll notify you. I may have the copper analysis today, and if I do, I'll inlude it as a P.S. or on the envelope.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Rich

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM October 20, 1964

TO Mr.Richard Picker

FROM Eric P.Newman

Dear Dick:

I am holding up my Elephant article until your copper analysis comes in.

Thanks for telling me about the Washington Half Dollar, in copper, with ornamental edge. I never even owned one until about four years ago. I do not know who Hall is and feel that his $35,000 price for the coin is about as accurate as his using me as a pedigree.

There is nothing new on our burglary and I am struggling to list all the stolen items. I am sincerely angry about it as the fences, who are coin dealers, are causing this situation.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/2/64

Dear Eric:

Please excuse the haste. I'd like your opinion of this piece as soon as possible. Anything new on the robbery?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

P

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.

COINS

P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 11/2/64 Nº 5603

Eric P. Newman

Edison Bros Stores Inc

400 Wash Ave.

St Louis 2, Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1776 N. H.	DRTW				

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

10/26/64

Dear Eric:

If this foil impression looks like it might possibly be a genuine Brasher counterstamp, I can borrow the coin, and let you examine it. Please let me know your opinion, either way.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

Phoney

EB

November 6, 1964

Mr.Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

You asked my opinion concerning the 1776 New Hampshire piece in coppercontaining a tree and the date 1776 on one side and AMERICA LIBERTY around the border and WM in the center on the other side. The piece weighs 142½ grains and has a specific gravity of 9.2.

It is one of the several different types of New Hampshire pieces which have been floating around for about 100 years. I have seen a half cent weighing 73¼ grains which was a struck piece and I have seen some of the other so-called New Hampshire pieces.

Those which contain the initials WM relate to the provisions in the New Hampshire Records authorizing William Moulton to make coppers for New Hampshire. William Moulton was an expert silversmith whose hallmarks and workmanship are well known. I do not think it is possible for him to have submitted or made a piece with his initials in enormous size, crudely cut in the center, and such crudely drawn figures and letters in the other parts of the coin. I have a photograph of another piece of the same general style as this one.

The drawing in the New Hampshire Records is specific as to what is wanted and this coin does not follow the drawing. Since even the initials of New Hampshire are omitted in the drawing I am sure no one would permit initials as large as WM to be used. I would guess that this is a rolled or struck piece from very crude home-made dies of the type which Betts would have made. In my opinion the piece is completely false.

This coin has the most peculiar appearance on the edge as if it were made up of three separate thin pieces pressed together. This is possible if the coin was produced

November 6, 1964

by a rolled die. It does not seem cast and its specific gravity would indicate it was not cast.

The basis of my opinion above is generally as stated and it is not the type of opinion which I like to give because it is not positive in proof but since I have seen so many different types of New Hampshire pieces I cannot but feel that there is other than devilment in the background of this one too.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/9/64

Dear Eric:

[redacted] Meanwhile, a while back, we were talking about me buying, or, selling on commission for you, or your foundation, that duplicate Immunis. How about giving that some further thought (at realistic prices), and letting me know. Meanwhile, here is the analysis of the London. I'd like to keep this on file, so, please have a photocopy made, and return this to me. As a matter of fact, I'd like you to make an extra photocopy, and let me have one. As we discussed, I don't think it would be a good idea to publish this info. Anyway, this only proves that the thick one that I loaned him had copper from a different source, and that could be possible in a genuine piece too. I had the new Fugio re-shot at the ANS, and will send you prints as soon as I have them, about a month or so. Will you be at ANS meeting on the 14th?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

* COIN WORLD 11/4/64
* NUMISMATIST 11/64

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

11/15/64

Dear Eric:

Was almost half expecting to see you at the ANS meeting yesterday. Though out of my field, Jim Risk was very interesting. I really enjoyed it. Meanwhile, the purpose of this letter is to borrow, as soon as possible, if you have one, a 42 shilling note of Massachusetts Dec. 7, 1775. It will be returned in short order.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

November 18, 1964

Mr.Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

Just a quickie. I have no 42 shilling Massachusetts of December 7, 1775 to send you. There is one in the American Antiquarian Society, one in the Chapman collection, one in the Ford Museum, one in the Massachusetts Historical Society, and a few others.

As to the two counterfeit notes you have for sale, I would prefer that you quoted them to me, then I could either buy them for cash or not.

I hope Ted has no further troubles and that your wife makes you pay enough attention to the children.

Coin World just apologized for having accepted the advertising of the various reproduction makers and said they would not do it any more unless copies were furnished them and unless it was specifically stated in the ad that the items were marked "copy".

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

December 11, 1964

TO Mr.Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

I believe you were going to send me a picture of the new Fugio piece which Jim Sloss has.

I certainly have no income tax problem with respect to the paper money transaction, but I would like it completed in 1964.

"atb"(Ann T.Barrett) and EPN want you to have a happy holiday.

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

12/15/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the letter. You never should have spoiled the illusion. ATB was always a mystery. Now she's Ann T. Barrett. Let's keep a little mystery, and don't tell me what the T. stands for. Regarding the Fugio photo, Vlack took one that was not too good. I had a new shot taken at ANS, and, to date, do not have the prints. I'm still holding the coin, just in the event that their prints aren't good enough. If not, I'll have it re-shot again. Meanwhile, as soon as the prints do arrive, I'll send you a set. Ben's check has not as yet arrived, but, I'm confident that it will be on time. I'll deposit it, and mail your portion immediately, so that you will still have it in 1964. If for any reason his check is late, I'll send your portion from my funds, so that you'll have it before the end of the year, or, in time to deposit before the end of the year. Coin World, 12/16/64, page 105 carries an ad for 1964-D silver dollars at something over $3.00 each!! Clip it and send to your congressman. Do you have a collection of Bungtowns as listed by Atkins? If so, about how many different pieces do you have? 12/20

Kindest regards and happy holidays to you, your family, and Ann T. Barrett,

Sincerely,

Dick

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

December 22, 1964

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Naturally I have a large group of Bungtowns as listed by Atkins.

I have done a great deal of work in this field and will, in due course, show that these should not be called Bungtowns.

I have, perhaps, 75 evasion pieces and, perhaps, 200 imitation Regal British halfpence.

Please tell me why you ask.

EPN/atb

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

December 22, 1964

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Thank you, very much, for the Fugio photo. I appreciate your helpfulness so much that I think I ought to put your picture in my Fugio work when it is finally finished.

EPN/atb

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

December 22, 1964

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

Thank you, very much, for the final payment on the Colonial Paper Currency. You handled this matter in a way which makes me very proud of you.

I hope that all parties involved are pleased with the way in which the situation was handled.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

12/28/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for your many notes. Glad that the paper money transaction went so smoothly, and that you're pleased. Now I'm anxious to work on some of your duplicate coins. N.J. IMMUNIS and others. The reason that I asked about the Bungtowns is that a friend of mine has a large collection of them, as Atkins listed them. Ted Craige also has a nice collection. However, we find that the Atkins listing is totally inadequate for proper attribution. As soon as Ted has his collection in order, I plan to borrow the other collection, and between the two, we should find most of what Atkins listed. We then plan to make a very descriptive list. Of course, we most probably will be lacking quite a few pieces, and are looking around to borrow other collections, so that the listing will be more complete. When we're ready, will you ship your collection on loan for this purpose? Don't know why you were expurgated, unless perhaps they may have thought it was poor advice. At any rate, have a Happy New Year, and atb too,

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Pic

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM

December 31, 1964

TO Mr. Richard Picker

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Dick:

Happy New Year.

As to the evasion project, I think you and your group are wasting a lot of time. Atkins' original notes and his notes subsequent to publication are in the Ashmolean Museum, in Oxford, and there are about 150 pieces in addition to the ones he listed. I think It is fundamental to obtain copies of that work, first.

Since it has nothing to do with coins circulated in America, I don't know why you are so enthused.

My collection of them does not even come to 100 pieces but, of course, they are available for study.

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/6/65

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the memos, and all the happy new years. I hope that you have a real good year too. We're not 'so enthused' about the Bungtowns, but more disturbed that what little published material there is on them is so inadequate. The fact that they have nothing to do with coins circulated in the Americas doesn't alter the fact that there are a number of collectors who collect them, and in correspondence, when they refer to the same number, they very often refer to different coins. Since all of these collectors have used Atkins published works, and come up with different numbers for the same piece, it is evident that further consultation of his works would probably be more confusing. In addition, it would probably be more difficult to get all of his original notes (or copies of them), than it would be to round up and borrow the major collections, and start from scratch, but, follow his system in numbering them alphebetically, with a few modifications. When we're ready to start, we'll take you up on your offer, and borrow your set. If it isn't a difficult or expensive proposition to get copies of the Atkins material in Oxford, it might be a good idea to have as a guide, as we work with these collections. Let me know what you can on this. Meanwhile, I'm anxious to

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

get this piece to you, so that I can have it back as soon as possible. I borrowed it from a dealer, who borrowed it from a customer. The other dealer promised to return it on the 23rd of January, and I want to play with it for a while after you've studied it. It doesn't match anything in NNM # 102 or 142 exactly, but, it does come close to Noe's 2nd variety of the VI which you labeled a counterfeit. I feel that you might have acess to photos of other counterfeits that it might match exactly. I'd appreciate knowing your findings on this as soon as possible. [redacted]

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

P.S. Value placed by owner. Please certify when returning.

RICHARD PICKER, Inc.

COINS

P. O. BOX 123 ALBERTSON

NEW YORK 11507

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 1/6/65 Nº 5685

Eric Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Wash Ave
St. Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	Test Punches of NE V1 + X1 on Copper		500	—		

January 7, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P. O. Box 366
Albertson, Long Island
New York

Dear Dick:

I am enclosing the two notes which were on loan at the time the Colonial paper money, now in your possession, was sent to you. Would you put them in their appropriate places in the books.

A further comment on the Pitt matter is enclosed but I avoided commenting on the various metals used in the coins as stated in the article.

With respect to the off-center Fugio, a rubbing of which you sent to me, I can only comment that, in my opinion, the writer of the letter has 100% myth on his side and 0% accuracy. It is pointless to tell the owner such things but it would be nice to have nice pictures of the off-center striking, and I would appreciate it if you would ask him to send you pictures, if he has them.

I do hope you get much more interesting Fugio comments by virtue of the comment in The Scrapbook. At least, let's thank all these nice people who volunteer information and tell them their comments will be carefully studied.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P.NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/15/64

Dear Eric:

Here's the Fugio that was sent to me for study. Which came first, the chicken or the egg? This fellow didn't have photos of it, but, was nice enough to offer to make them if it would help us. So, if you want a shot, since he sent the coin, just take it, and you can make a set of prints for him too. He'll probably appreciate it. Meanwhile, after you've studied it, please send it on to Jim Spilman, along with a copy of the letter where I quoted this fellows theories, and ask him to return it to me after he's thru examining it. Please explain that it isn't for sale. The 2 notes arrived safely, and will be placed in the proper spaces. Did you have any success in tracing the sheets that were lost? In sending this to Jim, please certify it, and ask him to certify it when returning it to me. I'll be looking forward to your call Saturday or Sunday.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/21/64

Dear Eric:

I guess I'll be speaking with you before you receive this. You sounded so concerned about having a contract, that I felt you'd like to see this as soon as possible. There was one item that I couldn't make out when I copied it (I was writing so fast while you were talking), and I don't know how important it might be to you. However, Ben agreed that I should send this to you as soon as possible, and, if you didn't like the way it was drawn up, you could draw it up any way that you would like it, and send it on, and we'll both sign it. The first $7,325. is already in my bank, and I will write the check as soon as you let me know whether you would rather I send you three equal payments of $6,000. each, as I receive Ben's checks, or, if you would prefer that I send you the first two full amounts of $7,325. and the third payment of $3,350. It doesn't make any difference to me. Whichever would be most convenient to you. I have all of your books and acetate holders, and will ship them as soon as I can get some boxes, and pack them. Ben took a few of the acetate holders that held some of the larger notes, and will ship them to you in a few weeks, as soon as he can break down the collection. Thanks again for the opportunity, and I hope that it is all worked out to your satisfaction.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 1/15/64 № 5190

Ernest Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Washington
St. Louis 2, Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1787 Fugio H.4-D. O/c holed	C53-7				

A.N.A. A.N.S.

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
MAYFAIR 1-0763

SPECIALIZING IN EARLY U. S.,
COLONIAL AND STATE COINS

INQUIRIES
RESPECTFULLY INVITED

January 20, 1964

Sold to Ben Douglas, collection of Colonial and Continental paper money for a total of $21,975.00, payable as follows:

$7,325. Payable today. Receipt acknowledged Richard Picker.

$7,325. Payable June 20, 1964

$7,325. Payable December 20, 1964

With the exception of: The following two items:

Rhode Island May 1786 Sheet of 8 notes # 11100 & 11051 being 6d, 9d, 1sh, 2½sh.

Delaware January 1, 1776 Sheet of 16 notes numbered from 72529 to 72544 being 4sh, 5sh, 6sh, 10sh.

Receipt of the entire collection is acknowledged.

The notes stand as security for the payments under this transaction to the extent that they are not sold to bona fide purchasers for reasonable prices.

It is understood under this agreement that should half of the notes be sold before June 20, 1964, the payment due on that date will become due immediately.

It is understood that shoud two-thirds of the notes be sold before December 20,1964, the payment due on that date will become due immediately.

Monthly reports as to the number of notes sold are to be submitted on the 20th day of each month.

It is understood that Eric Newman will supply to Ben Douglas, 402 Twelfth Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, a sheet of 16 Delaware notes, comparable to the exception noted above, and other notes that would be of comparable value to the Rhode Island notes mentioned in the exception above.

Ben Douglas
BEN DOUGLAS

Richard Picker
RICHARD PICKER

January 24, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island
New York

Dear Dick:

This will confirm the sale to you of a collection of all different American Colonial and Continental Currency for Eighteen Thousand Dollars ($18,000.00).

This collection was assembled in the course of my negotiations to buy the Harley Freeman Colonial and Continental paper money which I had from him for examination. Because the Freeman items duplicated many of the pieces I already had, I wrote Freeman about making arrangements to dispose of the duplicates in connection with the purchase from him. In November, 1963, I forwarded to you the 1094 items in accordance with a list sent to you last fall. These items were received by you with the exception of a sheet of sixteen Delaware notes and a sheet of eight Rhode Island notes which were lost in the mail. The Delaware notes will be replaced by me. The delivery of the Rhode Island notes is being waived by you. If the missing notes are found, one of the Delaware sheets will be returned to me and the Rhode Island sheet returned to you.

Receipt is acknowledged of Seven Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Five Dollars ($7,325.00) toward the Eighteen Thousand Dollar ($18,000.00) total. Another Seven Thousand Three Hundred Twenty Five Dollars ($7,325.00) is to be paid to me on or before June 20, 1964, and the balance on or before December 20, 1964.

As security for the unpaid balance, you agree to assign to me your rights to any unpaid balance under any contract by which you sell the items for other than cash. This assignment will be of no further force and effect after the Eighteen Thousand Dollars ($18,000.00) is paid to me.

Both of us are, I am sure, satisfied with our respective acquisitions and I would appreciate it if you would sign and return two duplicate copies of this letter.

Very truly yours,

Eric P.Newman

AGREED TO:

Richard Picker

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

7/22/64

Dear Eric:

Nice talking with you a few moments ago. As per this conversation, here's the check. Now, I'll get started in packing up your folders and holders. I think I'll send my book under separate cover. After thinking about the sheets that were missing, since you told them at your P.O. that it was old money, the possibilty is high that they were filched right there, and may have been sold to one of the local dealers. It might be a good idea to check them out. You have the numbers of the bills. The simplest thing is to visit them, and ask if they have any colonial paper for sale. Frankly, if you have a dishonest employee in your P.O., and they've determined that you ship 'old money', things that you ship in the future may become prime targets. One of the Fugios that was sent to me for examination was a beautiful 19-M with the reverse showing a strong incusation of the obverse, and the dies being 100% upset. If we don't have a good phopo of obv 19 or rev M, I can re-borrow it for photography. Please let me know on this. Did you receive the holed Fugio? Opinion?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Ric

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

12/18/64

Dear Eric:

And, a happy holiday to you!! Ben's check arrived this morning, so, here's the final payment. Nothing much else new. Have you given any further thought to letting me handle your duplicate Immunis? How about other good duplicates?

Kindest regards, and again, best wishes for a very happy holiday season,

Sincerely,

Dick

P.S. I miss your calls.

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 1/22/64 № 5197

Erin P. Newman
Edison Bros Store Inc
400 Washington Ave
St. Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE		
	Chapman Catalog Chas Morris Sale		On		
	4/19-20/1905 - with Plates		Loan		

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/29/64

Dear Eric:

Ni e talking with you last night. These things work out nicely, we can ask questions and have immediate answers. From now on, I'm going to keep a little file, and make notes of things I want to ask or tell you, and whenever you call, I'll have it handy. Meanwhile, here are the copies of the agreement you wanted. Do you want me to do anything with Empire on their Birch Cent @ $8500.? Did you mail the Delaware sheet to Ben Douglas? I just called Benedetti, and asked to borrow the Brass dollar. He told me that he sold it, and that the client is away for the winter, but, he would write anyway, and perhaps the client's son can get it. Otherwise, it'll be March or April before we can see it. As you suggested on the phone, I'll not send the copy of the letter to Dave, but, wait for a re-drafted one.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

P.S. I'm certain that this is bad, but, I'll never forget the mistake that I made with that Willow that had been in a fire. Please give this the test, and return as soon as possible.

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 1/29/64 Nº 5207

Eric P. Newman
Elmar Bras Stars Inc
400 Wash. Ave
St Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE	
	Highly Brandage Cart ?			

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

1/31/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the letter and photos. The Vermont immunes, etc. are unnecessary now. The photos will be safe here for a while, until I can get to them. If you can find shots of the Riggs coin, that would be most helpful. I wrote to him, and asked him to try to borrow it for me, but, I doubt that I'll have any luck . I guess you still can't send me a shot of JJF's gold one, can you? Empire told me that they had a gold one some time ago and that they would try to borrow it, or, send me a shot of it. I don't recall them offering such an item publicly, do you? Please excuse the haste.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

2/6/64

Dear Eric:

Just returned from Ted's house, and borrowed his 1783 Nova 2-Bs. Will get mine out of the vault Monday, and hope to come to some conclusion on the die states. Meanwhile, I checked the photo of the 'chicken-eagle' that you sent (the Boyd specimen), against the one in the Maris sale (lot 501), and the one plated in AJN (Hall specimen) Vol 36, and find that all three are of the same coin. That means that the one that I have is the 2nd known, the other still being in the Boyd estate (if JJF doesn't already have it). You never told me how he knew that I was after one. Can you?? The enclosed from Goodspeeds latest catalogue, which might interest you. If you think it may be important, perhaps they'll supply a photo-copy. Someone described a Maris sale catalogue (without plates) to me, that listed the purchasers, and Titus was listed as the purchaser of lot # 501, which means that he just bid it back in, and that Breen was wrong, and it never was in the Garrett collection or JHU. Incidentally, in the article by Hall in AJN on the Immunis, he mentioned: "the obverse has previously been illustrated by Mr. H.P. Smith in his Maris Sale Catalogue, June, 1886...." That was not Smith, but Henkels! My partner on the coin hasn't as yet returned, but, I expect him any day now. Perhaps by Monday, when you call, I will already have had a meeting with him, and will be able to name a price, and, if this is so, please be sitting firmly when I tell you!!!

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

EPN

February 4,1964

Mr.Benjamin M. Douglas
402 Twelfth Street,N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20004

Dear Mr. Douglas:

In accordance with the understanding with Richard Picker, I am enclosing herewith uncut Delaware sheet of sixteen notes dated January 1, 1776, consisting of four each of five shillings, four shillings, six shillings and ten shillings and being numbered 72449-64, inclusive.

If I can be of further service to you at any time, please do not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/a tb

February 10, 1964

Mr. Benjamin M. Douglas
402 Twelfth Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20004

Dear Ben:

Thank you, very much, for your willingness to send back the 14 shilling May 25, 1775 Massachusetts note No. 2644 which I included in the collection, by mistake. I intended to put in a 10 shilling note of this identical issue which will be in equally nice condition. Thank you for letting me correct this error, and I look forward to receiving the 14 shilling note at your earliest convenience.

With respect to the acetate envelopes, you may keep those which you need and I suggest that you slice off the side with the holes.

If, for your business purposes, you need a supply of these acetate envelopes, please let me know and I will get a price from the manufacturer. As I told you, I am buying these envelopes for about $65.00 per thousand, without the holes being punched. If this is an item which you find worth while to deal in, tell me the exact size you need, and I will obtain a price for you.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

MEMO FROM

Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

2/11/64

Dear Eric:

Nice talking with you even though it was rushed. The ~~X~~ only photo that I can think of at this time that might be important would be the shot of the Lu Riggs specimen of the Silver Immune if you took one of the entire coin, obverse and reverse, and/or if you have a blow-up of the portion that showed what we thought to be the undertype of the reverse of the 25¢. The blow-up of the obverse undertype shows very little. Meanwhile, I'll hold all prints, except the one enclosed, for a while, and hope that other coins may show up that may be helpful. In the event that I'm able to examine any others, I'll forward the mechanical details, and they can be inserted on the enclosed chart. I'll write for Hawley's again, as well as Mrs. Norweb's, and though at this point, this info may not mean anything, at least we'll have records of the known specimens, and, if we record enough, we may start to see some sort of pattern. The enclosed coin is on loan, and there's no rush in returning it. I'd suggest that you keep it for a while, and should you find that you're to be in Washington, take it, and compare the die state. If anything should call me there, I'll let you know, and you can shoot it back, and I can make the comparison. However, if you know any capable people there, you might forward this coin, and ask them to do it.

Kindest regards to you and LBJ,

Sincerely,

Dick

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

Inspection + Loan ~~APPROVAL~~

DATE 2/11/64 № 5229

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EDISON BROS STORES INC

400 WASH AVE

ST. LOUIS 2-MO

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1783 Nova 2-13 Late State	C53-9	—			

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

2/18/64

Dear Eric:

Nice talking with you last night. Hope you're feeling better. Here are a few things to work on. The Washington piece is fascinating. If you can lay your hands on a Dalton & Hamer, page 8 will have some info, as well as the Birmingham section, where they mention that he was in the habit of making die trials. At first I thought that this may have been the actual piece and that he then removed his name, and put in the date, but, I see that the letter placement is different, so it just was his first design, but the portrait is exact, which means that this portion was hubbed. The Fugio belongs to an Edwin Blow, so, if you want it, make out your check to him, and forward it to me, and I'll send it on. Since I don't plan to make anything on this, it's no sense having it go thru my books. If you find that you have the N.J. notes please send them on to Ben. Also, please send the holed piece on to Spilman, and ask him to return it to me as soon as possible. It's only on loan. I spoke with Mrs. Norweb, and mentioned this Washington item, and she told me that she has a similar piece, as well as about 5-6 other uniface Washingtons. She also told me that she would send them on to you for study, so, if you'd like them, just drop her a note and request them.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

P.S. Just received these from Benedetti. The holed one he bought in some English auction, and the nice one was the one that Steinberg brought back from England, and sold to Benedetti. In returning these, please be certain to certify them. Also, he would like 2 copies of a letter with your findings on each. Was the 19-M ever sent to you for photography?

February 19, 1964

Dear Dick,

The Immunis Columbia electrotype in my collection is the Boyd piece as it shows the definite dent on the right side of the pole in the center of the body of Liberty. I did not remember I had it.

Sincerely,

Mr.Richard Picker

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

RICHARD PICKER

COINS

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON

LONG ISLAND, N.Y.

MAYFAIR 1-0763

DATE 2/20/64 № 5245

Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros Stars Inc
400 Wash. Ave
St. Louis 2, MO

APPROVAL

	ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE			
	1776 Cont Dollar Brass Lated	BONGIOVTI				
	" " " " EF	"				
	Roman Head (die Trial?) Unifac					
	Fugio Reverse on Large Cent	Bloo	110	–		

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

2/22/64

Dear Eric:

These two look very suspicious to me. They are being offered to me by a REPUTABLE dealer, and, I can trace them back to another reputable dealer in England. These might be another link in the chain that might lead us to the English counterfeiters. Peck (page 139) says that he was able to examine 32 specimens, and that they all appeared to be from the same pair of dies. I had Ted check them with his pieces, and his notes are on the back of one of the envelopes. Though very similar, I think that they're from different dies. That alone isn't so important, Peck could have missed it, but the almost exact weight is very suspicious. Ted feels that the edge represents a different type of planchet cutter than his. Empire recently advertised a brill red proof. That was sold a few times, and I know where it is. It also differed (I was able to examine it) from the regular die, and was the same as this. Though this isn't an important colonial coin, I think it'll be worth while to check carefully, since it might be another lead. I'll speak to Ted today, and ask him to drop you a note telling you all of his points of difference that he found. I leave on the 24th for LA and return the 2nd or 3rd. Try to give me a call on the 6th, or the 4th.

If those N.J. notes weren't inadvertantly left in the folders that were returned to you, Ben thinks that he must have accidently thrown them out. We took them

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

out of your folders, and packed them in those glassine envelopes that I use, but, since he knew that he'd be transferring them again to clear ones, we packed 2, 3, and sometimes 4 to an envelope. In re-enveloping them at home, he may have just missed them. When I had the collection, I only showed them to two people, Anton and Rideout, and each time, I sat with them, handing them a book at a time, and replacing it when they were thru with it. After they saw it, the whole thing was packed, and placed in the vault, and wasn't withdrawn until Ben arrived, and he came to the bank with me to pick it up. If you cant find them there, don't worry, I'll work out something with Ben.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Pic

P.S. Just spoke to Ted. He's bringing me his London Tokens to enclose, for you to study with these, just in the event that you don't have any, or to let you have more to study. Please certify these when returning. Ted will not be writing you, since you'll have these.

RICHARD PICKER
COINS
P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N.Y.
MAYFAIR 1-0763

PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATISTS GUILD - INC.

DATE 2/23/64 № 5256

Eric P. Newman
Edison Bros Stores Inc
400 Washington Ave
St Louis 2 Mo

APPROVAL

ITEM	INVENTORY NUMBER	PRICE
London Token Thin 133 5/8 gr	ME	
" " " 133 1/4 gr	ME	
" " " 117 1/2 gr	TLC	
" " Thick 243 1/2 gr	TLC	
Please Certify when Returning		

February 27, 1964

Mr. Richard Picker
P. O. Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

I have carefully examined the Continental Dollar, in brass, Type 1-B, which you sent to me. You stated it was purchased in England by Foxy Steinberg, sold to Benadetti, and then sold to a customer of his.

Its weight is 249½ grains. Its specific gravity is 8.6. It is in extremely fine condition but has a burnished color in the upper left area of the obverse and the area within the links on the reverse.

The reverse is ten degrees clockwise from the obverse if the coin is turned on a vertical axis.

The O in CONTINENTAL has a tit on it.

There are file marks on both sides of the coin, made after the striking.

There is a lump in the center of the link marked PENNSYLVANIA and near the outside of the top of the link marked RHODE ISLAND. There are tiny dots in the center of most of the rest of the States, including the above. These lumps and dots within the links must have been caused by a depression in the die at that stage and were ground out or filled by the time the die was recut for use as Reverse C.

I have compared this coin with my coin and gave it every test I know how and find it to be quite genuine.

It is similar to the Merkin coin which you previously permitted me to examine.

As devilish as the modern counterfeiters might be, I do not believe there is anything to suspect on this coin - and I have been known to suspect.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

3/16/64

Dear Eric:

Didn't answer your last letter because I felt that you'd be calling. At the N.Y. meeting last Friday, I heard that you were here. Sorry you couldn't make the meeting. Didn't receive the coins yet. Did receive the holed Fugio from JCS, and it's on the way back to the owner. I ordered the print from ANS. Thanks for finding the number. I heard that Bowers has been offered some more Brass dollars in England, as well as some more red proofs of the London Token. Boy, this all sounds mighty suspicious, and frightening. What do you think of the Roman Bust? Did you have any success in tracing the package with the colonial sheets? Did you have time on this latest trip east to get to Washington and check the gold immune with the late state nova I sent you? CW sure botched up in that article, and Numismatic News didn't do too well either. I wonder who'll be next. I might even have basis for a law suit if I wanted to go to the time and trouble. Let's hear from you.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

EPN

March 23, 1964

Mr, Richard Picker
P.O.Box 366
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

I am returning the Oak Tree threepence, herewith, along with my comments.

I am returning the uniface Fugio FF struck over an 1798 cent and thank you for letting me study it. I have photographed it and thank you for Spilman's comments upon it.

I am returning theNova Constellatio Crosby 2-B with a die break and thank you for letting me study it. It convinces me that the B die was used for the Immunes at the same time as the regular Novas were produced. It also proves that the 1783 Nova dies were used in 1785 and that probably all production took place in 1785 with some antedated dies.

I am returning the uniface Roman Head trial piece by Hancock along with a photograph of it and an excerpt from AJN relating to similar action taken by Hancock.

I am returning the Benedetti brass Continental dollar, 1-B, which I am convinced is genuine, even though a few more have turned up. I am also enclosing a photograph of it for your files.

I am returning a holed Continental Dollar, in brass, which is an obvious cast counterfeit.

I am returning the four London tokens, two belonging to Ted, and two being of the new die andhave no reason to feel that those with the new die are bad. Ted's pieces are certainly lovely and I was very pleased to have the opportunity to look at them.

March 23, 1964

Believe it or not this returns to you everything of yours except the catalogge.

This is not intended to be a letter, merely a return of pieces which I am very grateful you gave me the opportunity to study.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

CERTIFIED MAIL
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
AREA CODE 516 • MAYFAIR 1-0763

3/26/64

Dear Eric:

All the stuff arrived today, and the items to be returned are all in the mails already. I went over your notes on the OTIII, but, only having the Noe and Wurtxback plates with which to work, I can't come to any definite conclusion. However, after studying these plates, I think that all of the OT IIIs should be re-studied. Despite the differences in the trees, I'm of the opinion that all of the obverses are the same, from 24 - 27, and possibly even 23, with the lettering being re-cut, and the tree altered in each case. If you examined the obverse of my coin, you'd have found that the tree also differs in some minor respects, as compared with the plates. I'm going to call ANS tomorrow, and find if they have all of these varieties in their collection, and, if so, get up there and make actual comparisons, and, possibly ask them to make blow up shots for me, in order to establish the correct sequence. If we must go along with the book, and find nothing new, other than this piece, we'll have to call it 27 minus ½! What did you think of Spilmans comments on the FF uniface over 1798? Were you able to determine that the Immunes were from an earlier state than this no a 2-B? I couldn't from the photos of the gold piece, which I found inadequate for detailed study. Dammit, you aan't even think a mistake on this electric machine, but what it prints it!!! Thanks for the info on Hancock. I assume that the piece mentioned in the article was the large/small eagle. Mrs. N. told me that she

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had a few such pieces, but, didn't recall which ones. I'll have to get to see them, or, get definite info from her. You mentioned that you took a shot of the uniface Fugio FF over the 1798 cent. Would you please send me two prints of that, as well as an extra print of Benedetti's brass dollar. At this point, with the discovery of a proof of the London piece a few months ago, then these two, also from England, and the discovery of a few more proofs, all of the same new die, all from England, it seems to me that suspicion is definitely in order, and even though I have an ownership in these two, I suspect them, and feel that further study on them is waranted. It certainly seems peculiar that after the British Museum studied these pieces, and was able to examine 32 pieces, and all were of the same die, suddenly, within a few months, 5 pieces show up of a new die, and 3 of them proofs, with a presumable market value of about $400. each (which was the price paid for the 1st one). Ted is at an Engineering show in the city, but, when he returns, I'm sure that he'll be happy to know your opinion of his pieces. By the way, if you have the Crosby catalogue, could you give me the complete description of lot # 299, which is mentioned in this AJN excerpt? Wait, don't bother, I just had an idea, and checked Crosby, and he describes it thoroughly on page 352! However, I would like to get accurate descriptions of the other two pieces that he mentions. Do you have those catalogues?

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

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P.S. It's Friday, and I called ANS, and they lack Noe 2~~5~~4 and 25, so, I got the bright idea to check my notes on the Boyd pieces, which I was able to examine a few years ago. I quote my note: "Noe 27½ This proves rev 26 & 27 from same die, Noe 27 rev first then 26 (thru) recutting and repairs~~)~~ and this 27½ still a later recutting of 26. Note longer beads; shape of 52; on Obv SE strengthened and tree differs slightly in recutting of branches on left."
I tried calling NN to try to borrow their specimens to study, but, they seem to be closed today. I tried Ford at home, (BOYD's) but, no answer. Will get at it as soon as possible,.

MEMO FROM Richard Picker

P. O. BOX 366 ALBERTSON
LONG ISLAND, N. Y.
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3/1/64

Dear Eric:

Thanks for the notes and photos. The ground line as well as the elephant is different on this new die. Meanwhile, here's the photo of the 'chicken eagle'. Just got them from ANS today. This is for your use only, and is not to be published, etc. I know that it isn't necessary to say that, but, it's best. And, this'll throw you, a Continental Dollar in copper! What could have been the purpose of this? It couldn't be to test the dies with such a small piece, and there wasn't any numismatic tomfoolery in those days. Do you think it's possible that they had the idea of using the same dies to make a minor coinage, tried it, and then gave up. This thing has actually seen some wear. It seems to be copper, but, sp.g. should prove that. This is probably over some minor foreign coin, but, I can see no undertype at all. If you decide to shoot it, please send me two prints. This piece belongs to Normie Stack. Please return it to me ~~dixx~~, and please be certain to certify it. Dr. Sloss has some Fugio patterns, and he promised to bring them on to the N.Y. show with him, for me to study, and, if I can't finish there, he'll leave them with me. The show will be 4/30 - 5/3 at the Park Sheraton. Perhaps you'll make it. I'll be in Dallas 4/9-12/ and K.C. 4/23-26 just in the event that you find yourself at any of these places.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Dick